

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A motion controlled handheld device comprising:
  - a display having a viewable surface and operable to generate a current image;
  - a gesture database maintaining a plurality of gestures, each gesture defined by
  - 5 a motion of the device with respect to a first position of the device;
  - a gesture mapping database comprising a mapping of each of the gestures to an associated command;
  - a motion detection module operable to detect motion of the device within three dimensions and to identify components of the motion in relation to the viewable
  - 10 surface;
  - a display control module having a first mode of operation and a second mode of operation;
  - the display control module operable in the first mode of operation to monitor the motion of the device, to determine a location of the device resulting from the
  - 15 motion, and to modify the current image based on the resulting location of the device;
  - the display control module operable in the second mode of operation to monitor the motion of the device, to track movement of the handheld device using the motion detection module, to compare the tracked movement with the gestures to identify a matching gesture, to identify one of the commands associated with the
  - 20 matching gesture, and to modify the current image based on the identified command;
  - and
  - a mode selection module operable to detect a mode selection trigger and to switch between the first mode of operation and the second mode of operation in response to detecting the mode selection trigger.
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2. The motion controlled handheld device of Claim 1, wherein the mode selection trigger comprises a change in a state of the device.
3. The motion controlled handheld device of Claim 2, wherein the change
- 30 in the state of the device occurs when the device switches from a first application to a second application.

4. The motion controlled handheld device of Claim 2, wherein the change in the state of the device occurs when the current image switches from a first image to a second image.

5 5. The motion controlled handheld device of Claim 1, wherein the mode selection module switches from the first mode of operation to the second mode of operation in response to detecting a first mode selection trigger, and the mode selection module switches from the second mode of operation to the first mode of operation in response to detecting a second mode selection trigger different than the  
10 first mode selection trigger.

6. The motion controlled handheld device of Claim 1, wherein the mode selection trigger comprises one of the gestures.

15 7. The motion controlled handheld device of Claim 1, wherein the mode selection trigger comprises non-motion related input received using a user interface of the device.

20 8. The motion controlled handheld device of Claim 1, wherein:  
the display control module has a third mode of operation;  
the display control module operable in the third mode of operation to disregard the motion of the device.

9. The motion controlled handheld device of Claim 1, further comprising:  
a first accelerometer operable to detect acceleration along a first axis;  
a second accelerometer operable to detect acceleration along a second axis, the  
second axis perpendicular to the first axis; and  
5 a third accelerometer operable to detect acceleration along a third axis, the  
third axis perpendicular to the first axis and perpendicular to the second axis; and  
wherein:  
the gesture database further defines each of the gestures using a sequence of  
accelerations;  
10 the motion detection module is further operable to detect motion of the device  
using accelerations measured by the first accelerometer, the second accelerometer,  
and the third accelerometer; and  
the display control module is further operable, in the second mode of  
operation, to match the accelerations measured by the motion detection module  
15 against gesture definitions in the gesture database to identify particular ones of the  
gestures.

10. A method for controlling a handheld device comprising:  
generating a current image on a viewable surface of the handheld device;  
maintaining a gesture database maintaining a plurality of gestures, each  
gesture defined by a motion of the device with respect to a first position of the device;  
5 maintaining a gesture mapping database comprising a mapping of each of the  
gestures to an associated command;  
detecting motion of the device within three dimensions;  
identifying components of the motion in relation to the viewable surface;  
in a first mode of operation, monitoring the motion of the device, determining  
10 a location of the device resulting from the motion, and modifying the current image  
based on the resulting location of the device;  
in a second mode of operation monitoring the motion of the device, tracking  
movement of the handheld device, comparing the tracked movement with the gestures  
to identify a matching gesture, identifying one of the commands associated with the  
15 matching gesture, and modifying the current image based on the identified command;  
detecting a mode selection trigger; and  
switching between the first mode of operation and the second mode of  
operation in response to detecting the mode selection trigger.
- 20 11. The method of Claim 10, wherein the mode selection trigger comprises  
a change in a state of the device.
12. The method of Claim 11, wherein the change in the state of the device  
occurs when the device switches from a first application to a second application.
- 25 13. The method of Claim 11, wherein the change in the state of the device  
occurs when the current image switches from a first image to a second image.
14. The method of Claim 10, further comprising, in a third mode of  
30 operation, disregarding the motion of the device.

15. The method of Claim 10, wherein the gesture database further defines each of the gestures using a sequence of accelerations; the method further comprising:

detecting acceleration along a first axis;

5 detecting acceleration along a second axis, the second axis perpendicular to the first axis; and

detecting acceleration along a third axis, the third axis perpendicular to the first axis and perpendicular to the second axis;

detecting motion of the device using accelerations measured by the first accelerometer, the second accelerometer, and the third accelerometer; and

10 matching the accelerations against gesture definitions in the gesture database to identify potential indicated ones of the gestures.

16. Logic for controlling a handheld device, the logic embodied in a computer readable medium and operable when executed to perform the steps of:

generating a current image on a viewable surface of the handheld device;

maintaining a gesture database maintaining a plurality of gestures, each  
5 gesture defined by a motion of the device with respect to a first position of the device;

maintaining a gesture mapping database comprising a mapping of each of the gestures to an associated command;

detecting motion of the device within three dimensions;

identifying components of the motion in relation to the viewable surface;

10 in a first mode of operation, monitoring the motion of the device, determining a location of the device resulting from the motion, and modifying the current image based on the resulting location of the device;

in a second mode of operation monitoring the motion of the device, tracking movement of the handheld device, comparing the tracked movement with the gestures  
15 to identify a matching gesture, identifying one of the commands associated with the matching gesture, and modifying the current image based on the identified command;

detecting a mode selection trigger; and

switching between the first mode of operation and the second mode of operation in response to detecting the mode selection trigger.

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17. The logic of Claim 16, wherein the mode selection trigger comprises a change in a state of the device.

18. The logic of Claim 16, further operable when executed to perform the  
25 step of, in a third mode of operation, disregarding the motion of the device.

19. The logic of Claim 16, wherein the gesture database further defines each of the gestures using a sequence of accelerations; the logic further operable when executed to perform the steps of:

detecting acceleration along a first axis;

5 detecting acceleration along a second axis, the second axis perpendicular to the first axis; and

detecting acceleration along a third axis, the third axis perpendicular to the first axis and perpendicular to the second axis;

10 detecting motion of the device using accelerations measured by the first accelerometer, the second accelerometer, and the third accelerometer; and

matching the accelerations against gesture definitions in the gesture database to identify potential indicated ones of the gestures.

20. A motion controlled handheld device comprising:

means for generating a current image on a viewable surface of the handheld device;

5 means for maintaining a gesture database maintaining a plurality of gestures, each gesture defined by a motion of the device with respect to a first position of the device;

means for maintaining a gesture mapping database comprising a mapping of each of the gestures to an associated command;

means for detecting motion of the device within three dimensions;

10 means for identifying components of the motion in relation to the viewable surface;

means for, in a first mode of operation, monitoring the motion of the device, determining a location of the device resulting from the motion, and modifying the current image based on the resulting location of the device;

15 means for, in a second mode of operation monitoring the motion of the device, tracking movement of the handheld device, comparing the tracked movement with the gestures to identify a matching gesture, identifying one of the commands associated with the matching gesture, and modifying the current image based on the identified command;

20 means for detecting a mode selection trigger; and

means for switching between the first mode of operation and the second mode of operation in response to detecting the mode selection trigger.